

OPERATION SAFE ROAD

The following table provides a summary of cases resulting from the continuing investigation known as *Operation Safe Road*, which was first announced in September 1998 by the United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois. The information is subject to change and is not intended to be a substitute for the official court record of the proceedings. The cases are being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Patrick Collins, Joel Levin, Theodore Chung, Sean Berkowitz, Philip Guentert, Stuart Chanen, Diane MacArthur and Laurie Barsella. For more information contact Public Information Officer Randall Samborn at (312) 353-5318.

United States v. Mastrodomenico, et al., 98 CR 623

(Judge Conlon)

Facility: Melrose Park

Name	Charges	Disposition	Sentence	Notes
Mary Ann Mastrodomenico (Manager, Melrose Park)	Arrested: 9/3/98; Indicted: 10/6/98; racketeering conspiracy, extortion conspiracy, mail fraud and att. extortion	Pleaded guilty: 11/23/98; racketeering conspiracy	Sentenced: 2/26/99; 10 months (5 months prison; 5 months home confinement); forfeiture: \$25,000	Admitted selling more than \$50,000 in campaign fund- raising tickets
Phyllis Volpe (Assistant Manager, Melrose Park)	Arrested: 9/3/98; Indicted: 10/6/98; racketeering conspiracy, extortion conspiracy, mail fraud and att. extortion	Pleaded guilty: 11/23/98; racketeering conspiracy	Sentenced: 3/8/99; 8 months (4 months prison; 4 months home confinement); forfeiture: \$2,500	
Carmen Fajdich (Retired SOS employee)	Arrested: 9/3/98; Indicted: 10/6/98; racketeering and extortion conspiracy, mail fraud and att. extortion (2 counts)	Pleaded guilty: 11/12/98; racketeering conspiracy	Sentenced: 2/26/99; 14 months home confinement (revoked 4/26/00 -- 14 months BOP); forfeiture: \$25,000	
Janusz Krzyzak (Instructor, Mega Driving School)	Arrested: 9/13/98; Indicted: 10/6/98; racketeering and extortion conspiracy, mail fraud	Pleaded guilty: 11/12/98; racketeering conspiracy	Sentenced: 2/26/99; 10 months in prison; forfeiture: \$3,000	
Miodrag Dobrosavljevich (Owner, Brookfield Truck Repair)	Arrested: 9/14/98; Indicted: 10/6/98; racketeering conspiracy, extortion conspiracy, mail fraud	Pleaded guilty: 11/98; racketeering conspiracy	Sentenced: 2/26/99; 14 months in prison; forfeiture: \$4,000	

United States v. Jenkins, 99 CR 23**(Judge Kocoras)****Facility: Chicago-South (99th and King Drive)**

Name	Charges	Disposition	Sentence	Notes
Leonard Jenkins (Assistant Manager, King Drive)	Information: 1/19/99; attempted extortion	Pleaded guilty: 2/8/99; attempted extortion	Sentenced: 6/10/99; 8 months in prison;	

United States v. Seibel, et al., 99 CR 78**(Judge Gottschall)****Facility: McCook**

Name	Charges	Disposition	Sentence	Notes
Marion Seibel (Manager, McCook)	Arrested: 2/9/99; Indicted: 4/6/99; racketeering and extortion conspiracy and extortion (3)	Pleaded guilty: 7/8/99; racketeering conspiracy	Sentenced: 1/4/00; 18 months beginning 2/8/00; two years supervised release, 200 hours local service	Admitted selling more than \$82,000 in political fund- raising tickets
George Velasco (Manager, McCook)	Indicted: 4/6/99; racketeering conspiracy, extortion conspiracy, extortion, mail fraud	Pleaded guilty: 9/9/99; racketeering conspiracy	Sentenced: 2/11/00; 18 months beginning 4/17/00; two years supervised release; 200 hours community service	Admitted selling more than \$25,000 in political fund- raising tickets
William O'Connor (IDOT supervisor)	Indicted: 4/6/99; racketeering and extortion conspiracy and extortion (3); new charges: 8/5/99; tax evasion	Pleaded guilty: 8/6/99; tax evasion	Sentenced: 12/2/99; 6 months community confinement; 2 months home confinement; 100 hours community service; pay \$592 in taxes owed	
Miguel Calderon (IDOT employee)	Indicted: 4/6/99; extortion conspiracy	Pleaded guilty: 4/27/99; extortion conspiracy	Sentenced: 10/22/99; 2 months community confinement; 4 months home confinement	

Name	Charges	Disposition	Sentence	Notes
Edwin Diaz (IDOT employee)	Indicted: 4/6/99; extortion conspiracy and three counts extortion	Pleaded guilty: 4/19/99; extortion conspiracy	Sentenced: 10/15/99; 4 months prison; 4 months home confinement	
Gonzalo Mendoza	Indicted: 4/6/99; racketeering conspiracy, extortion conspiracy and two counts extortion	Pleaded guilty: racketeering conspiracy	Sentenced: 2/25/00; 18 months prison beginning 7/10/00; two years supervised release; 200 hours community service	Referred more than 80 applicants, including Ricardo Guzman, to McCook to obtain fraudulent CDLs for bribes

United States v. Blagojevic, 99 CR 242

(Judge Bucklo)

Facilities: Melrose Park / McCook

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Nikola Blagojevic	Arrested: 4/9/99; extortion conspiracy	Pleaded guilty: 7/14/99; extortion conspiracy	Sentenced: 10/18/99; 30 days intermittent confinement; 5½ months home confinement (modified 5/4/00 -- four days/week at Salvation Army, three days/week allowed to drive); \$1,000 fine; 200 hours community service	

United States v. Jans, et al., 99 CR 674

(Judge Bucklo)

Third-party testing

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Waitung Chan (Owner, Advanced Driving School)	Indicted: 9/7/99; bribery and extortion conspiracy	Pleaded guilty: 3/28/00; extortion conspiracy	Sentenced: 9/14/00; 5 months starting 11/14/00; three years supervised release, four months home confinement; \$3,000 fine	
David Jans (Former trucking company safety officer)	Indicted: 9/7/99; bribery and extortion conspiracy	Pleaded guilty: 12/3/99; extortion conspiracy	Sentenced: 10/13/00; five years probation, 30 days intermittent community confinement, followed by four months intermittent home confinement; 200 hours community service	

United States v. Mcleczynsky, 99 CR 723

(Judge Gottschall)

Facility: Elk Grove Village / Melrose Park

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Alex Mcleczynsky (Driving school instructor)	Arrested: 10/1/99; Indicted: 12/14/99; extortion and two counts extortion conspiracy; superseding indictment 4/11/00; racketeering conspiracy, extortion conspiracy and two counts aiding and abetting extortion	Plea: not guilty, 1/4/00; 4/25/00 pleaded not guilty to superseding indictment; Trial began 5/23/00; convicted of racketeering conspiracy, extortion conspiracy and aiding and abetting extortion (also acquitted of one count) 6/6/00	Sentenced: 7/20/01; 30 months in prison starting 8/28/01; two years supervised release; 200 hours community service	

United States v. Carter, 99 CR 760

(Judge Conlon)

Facility: Elk Grove Village / Niles

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Donna Carter (Elk Grove Village, Niles)	Arrested: 10/8/99; Indicted: 12/14/99 extortion and extortion conspiracy	Pleaded guilty: 2/16/00; extortion conspiracy	Sentenced: 5/4/00; 12 months in prison beginning 6/15/00; three years supervised release	

United States v. Cho, et al., 99 CR 969**(Judge Conlon)****Facility: Elk Grove Village / Deerfield**

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Soon Cho (Manager, Elk Grove Village)	Indicted: 12/14/99; two counts extortion conspiracy	Arraigned: 12/16/99; Pleaded guilty: 1/12/00 extortion conspiracy	Sentenced: 3/29/00; 8 months in prison beginning 5/31/00; two years supervised release; \$3,000 fine	Admitted selling \$15,000 in political fundraising tickets
Ronald Martin (Elk Grove Village, Deerfield)	Indicted: 12/14/99; attempted extortion and two counts extortion conspiracy	Arraigned: 12/16/99; Pleaded guilty: 1/12/00 extortion conspiracy	Sentenced: 3/29/00; 12 months in prison beginning 6/12/00; two years supervised release	Admitted assisting Cho in selling political fundraising tickets
Wojciech "Wally" Grabinski (Enigma, Presto driving schools)	Indicted: 12/14/99; extortion conspiracy	Arraigned: 12/16/99; Pleaded guilty: 1/12/00 extortion conspiracy	Sentenced: 3/29/00; 8 months in prison beginning 5/10/00; two years supervised release; \$3,000 fine	

Facility: Chicago-West

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Kenneth Golumb (Starter, Chicago-West)	Arrested: 11/17/99; Indicted 12/14/99; extortion conspiracy, 7 counts attempted extortion	Pleaded guilty: 5/18/00; extortion conspiracy	Sentenced: 8/30/00; 33 months in prison beginning 10/11/00; 3 years supervised release; \$20,000 fine	
John Conti Road test examiner	Arrested: 11/18/99; Indicted 12/14/99; extortion conspiracy, 6 counts attempted extortion	Pleaded guilty: 2/15/00; extortion conspiracy	Sentenced: 8/2/01; 11 months in prison beginning 9/20/01; 3 years supervised release; \$4,000 fine	
Dina Bartucci-Miller Road test examiner	Arrested: 11/18/99; Indicted 12/14/99; extortion conspiracy and two counts attempted extortion	Pleaded guilty: 3/20/00; extortion conspiracy	Sentenced: 10/5/0; 10 months in prison beginning 1/10/02; 3 years supervised release	
Veronica Martinez Road test examiner	Arrested: 11/18/99; Indicted 12/14/99; extortion conspiracy and attempted extortion	Pleaded guilty: 3/20/00; extortion conspiracy	Sentenced: 7/18/01; 3 years probation; 6 months home confinement with electronic monitoring; \$3,000 fine; 300 hours community service	
Evelyn Huszar Road test examiner	Arrested: 11/18/99; Indicted 12/14/99; extortion conspiracy and three counts attempted extortion	Pleaded guilty 2/17/00; extortion conspiracy	Sentenced: 3/1/01; one year probation; four months home confinement	

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Ernestine Jordan Road test examiner	Arrested: 11/18/99; Indicted 12/14/99; extortion conspiracy and three counts attempted extortion	Pleaded guilty: 2/15/00; extortion conspiracy	Sentenced: 7/19/01; 3 years probation; 6 months home confinement with electronic monitoring; \$2,000 fine	
Daniela Goris Road test examiner	Indicted 12/14/99; extortion conspiracy	Pleaded guilty: 5/31/00; filing false tax return (superseding information)	Sentenced: 7/18/01; 5 years probation; \$2,500 fine; 200 hours community service	
Peco Sherovski (AAA Driving School)	Indicted 12/14/99; extortion conspiracy	Pleaded guilty: 2/16/00; extortion conspiracy	Sentenced: 8/22/01; 1 year and 1 day in prison starting Oct. 10; 3 years supervised release; \$30,000 fine	
Victor Wesley Road test examiner	Complaint: 2/22/00; Indicted: 3/21/00; extortion conspiracy	Pleaded guilty: 10/10/00; superseding information	Sentenced: 1/24/01; 5 years probation; 6 months home confinement with electronic monitoring; \$1,000 fine	

United States v. Bauer, 00 CR 81
Inspector General's Office

(Judge Norgle)

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Dean Bauer Former Inspector General	Indicted 2/1/00; racketeering, mail fraud (2), obstruction of justice (2) and making false statements; superseding indictment 7/18/00	Pleaded guilty: 1/17/01; obstruction of justice; acknowledged that government could prove other conduct at trial	Sentenced: 4/25/01; 1 year and 1 day in prison; \$10,000 fine; 2 years supervised release;	

United States v. Winniczek and Puleo, 00 CR 248**(Judge Zagel)****Florida licensing**

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Hilary Marek Winniczek Florida CDL examiner	Complaint 4/5/00 unsealed 4/7/00; extortion conspiracy, wire fraud and mail fraud; Indicted 6/20/00; wire fraud (3 counts) and interstate travel in aid of racketeering (5 counts)	Pleaded guilty: 11/19/01; interstate travel in aid of racketeering	Sentenced: 6/6/02; 22 months in prison; \$7,500 fine; 3 years supervised release	
Tony A. Puleo Florida CDL examiner	Indicted 6/20/00; wire fraud (3 counts) and interstate travel in aid of racketeering (5 counts)	Pleaded guilty: 11/8/00; wire fraud	Sentenced: 3/13/02; 18 months in prison; \$6,000 fine; 2 years supervised release	

United States v. Gonzalez, 00 CR 558**(Judge Gottschall)****Facility: Chicago-West**

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Cristobal Gonzalez (Acapulco Driving School)	Indicted 7/18/00; two counts bribery	Pleaded guilty: 8/31/00; bribery	Sentenced: 4/12/01; 2 years probation; 8 months in home detention; \$500 fine	

United States v. Bharat Patel, 00 CR 560**(Judge Conlon)****Facility: Chicago-West**

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Bharat Patel (New Dehli Driving School)	Indicted 7/18/00; two counts bribery	Pleaded not guilty: 7/25/00; Trial began 9/5/00; found guilty 9/7/00	Sentenced: 10/26/00; 37 months starting 12/7/00; 3 years supervised release, no driving school affiliation; \$15,000 fine	

United States v. Manharbhai Patel, 00 CR 561**(Judge Shadur)****Facility: Chicago-West**

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Manharbhai Patel (New Dehli Driving School and Asia Driving School)	Indicted 7/18/00; two counts bribery; superseding indictment: perjury	Pleaded guilty: 11/28/00	Sentenced: 3/27/01; 1 year and 1 day in prison; 3 years supervised release	

United States v. Valdez, 00 CR 559**(Judge Shadur)****Facility: Chicago-West**

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Araceli Valdez (Chicago Driving School)	Indicted 7/18/00; two counts bribery	Pleaded guilty: 9/5/00; superseding information	Sentenced: 12/21/00; two years probation; 8 months home confinement with electronic monitoring; 200 hours community service	

United States v. Yanez, 00 CR 557**(Judge Moran)****Facility: Chicago-West**

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Rodrigo Yanez (Caribe Driving School)	Indicted 7/18/00; two counts bribery	Arraignment: pending	Fugitive	

United States v. Smith, 00 CR 785**(Judge Lindberg)**

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
David Smith	Arrested: 9/25/00; Indicted: 10/31/00; obstruction of justice, making false statements	Trial began 3/6/00; convicted of making false statements 3/8/0; obstruction dismissed	Sentenced: 12/11/01; 57 months in prison; 3 years supervised release; Sentence amended 7/25/02; 30 months in prison	

United States v. Spahn, 01 CR 184**(Judge Castillo)****Facility: Elgin**

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
John Spahn Public Service Rep.	Complaint: 3/6/01 (unsealed 3/15/01) extortion-related offenses ; Indicted: 3/27/01; two counts extortion conspiracy	Pleaded guilty: 11/8/01; extortion conspiracy	Sentenced: 3/6/02; 10 mos. in prison; two years supervised release; \$40,000 fine	

United States v. Hall and DiSalvo, 01 CR 246**(Judge Manning)**

Remodeling Contract Fraud: South Holland and Melrose Park

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Larry Hall SOS Chicago Metro Area Property Manger	Information filed: 3/15/01; mail fraud (2 counts)	Pleaded guilty: 4/30/01; mail fraud	Sentenced: 10/17/02; 4 years probation; \$4,000 fine; 400 hours of community service	
Jerry DiSalvo B&J Construction	Information filed: 3/15/01; mail fraud (2 counts)	Pleaded guilty: 7/13/01; mail fraud	Sentenced: 10/19/01; 5 months in prison beginning 1/5/02; 3 years supervised release; \$10,000 fine	

United States v. Gonzalez, 01 CR 483**(Judge Castillo)****Facility: Elgin**

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Jorge Jose Gonzalez	Indictment unsealed 2/28/02; extortion conspiracy and extortion (2 counts)	Pleaded guilty: 6/3/02; extortion conspiracy	Sentenced: 9/4/02; 21 months in prison, \$300 fine; 3 years supervised release	

United States v. Rzedzian, et al., 01 CR 562**(Judge Lefkow)****Florida licensing**

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Lech Rzedzian	Complaint: 6/16/01; (unsealed 7/12/01); Indicted: 10/9/01; wire fraud	Pleaded guilty: 11/16/01; wire fraud	Sentenced: 1/11/02; 207 days; 2 years supervised release	
Felix O. Mamedov	Complaint: 7/11/01; Indicted: 10/9/01; wire fraud	Pleaded guilty: 2/6/02; wire fraud	Sentenced: 10/18/02; 3 years probation 4 months home confinement \$50,000 forfeiture	
Jorge Carranza	Indicted: 10/9/01; wire fraud	Pleaded guilty 7/23/02; wire fraud	Sentenced: 11/1/02; 3 years probation 4 months home confinement \$2,000 fine \$40,000 forfeiture	

United States v. de los Santos, 01 CR 788

(Judge Grady)

Facility: Lombard

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Maria de los Santos	Complaint: 9/7/01; Information filed: 12/23/02; identification document fraud	Pleaded guilty: 2/4/03	Sentenced: 4/30/03; 12 months prison; \$30,000 fine	

United States v. Pizarro, 01 CR 943

(Magistrate Judge Levin)

Facility: Lombard

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Michael Pizarro	Complaint: 11/6/01; identification document fraud; arrested 11/20/01	Bond revoked and arrest warrant issued 12/3/01	Fugitive	

United States v. Fawell, et al., 02 CR 310

(Judge Pallmeyer)

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Scott R. Fawell SOS Chief of Staff	Indicted: 4/2/02; racketeering, theft of government funds, conspiracy to obstruct justice, perjury, two counts mail fraud and three counts filing false tax returns	Pleaded not guilty 4/9/02; trial began 1/8/03; found guilty on all counts 3/19/03	Sentenced: 6/30/03; 78 months in prison beginning 11/7/03	
Citizens for Ryan	Indicted: 4/2/02; racketeering, conspiracy to obstruct justice and two counts mail fraud	Pleaded not guilty 4/9/02; trial began 1/8/03; found guilty on all counts 3/19/03; agreed forfeiture of \$750,000	Sentenced: 6/30/03; \$750,000 forfeiture	
Richard Juliano	Indicted: 4/2/02; mail fraud	Pleaded guilty 4/18/02; mail fraud	Sentencing: pending	

United States v. Warner, et al., 02 CR 506

(Judge Pallmeyer)

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Lawrence E. Warner	Indicted: 5/21/02; superseding indictment 12/17/03; racketeering conspiracy, extortion, structuring, seven counts mail fraud, two counts money laundering	Pleaded not guilty 5/30/02;	Trial: 2/23/04	
Donald Udstuen	Indicted: 5/21/02; tax fraud conspiracy	Pleaded guilty 6/26/02; tax fraud conspiracy	Sentencing: pending	
Alan Drazek	Indicted: 5/21/02; tax fraud conspiracy	Pleaded guilty 1/6/03; tax fraud conspiracy	Sentencing: pending	
George H. Ryan, Sr. Former Secretary of State 1991-1999 Former Governor 1999-2003	Indicted: 12/17/03; racketeering conspiracy, 9 counts mail fraud, three counts false statements, tax fraud, four counts filing false income tax returns	Arraignment: Pending		

United States v. Catanzarite, et al., 02 CR 507

(Judge Manning)

Former Watkins Employees

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Frank Catanzarite, Jr.	Indicted: 5/21/02; wire fraud and mail fraud	Pleaded guilty: 5/22/03; mail fraud	Sentencing: 1/16/04 @11:30	
John Nowak	Indicted: 5/21/02; mail fraud	Pleaded guilty: 8/9/02 mail fraud	Sentenced: 12/6/02; three years probation; \$3,000 fine	

United States v. Gregus, 02 CR 510

(Judge Guzman)

Florida CDLs

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Peter Gregus	Indicted: 5/21/02; interstate travel in aid of racketeering	Pleaded guilty: 9/24/02	Sentenced: 1/14/03; five months in prison; two years supervised release	

United States v. Stanley, et al., 02 CR 609**(Judge Kocoras)****Metra contracts**

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Roger Stanley	Indicted: 6/19/02; mail fraud, money laundering, bribery, obstruction of justice	Pleaded guilty: 5/8/03; mail fraud and money laundering conspiracy	Sentenced: 9/18/03; 27 months in prison; 3 years supervised release; \$7,500 fine	
Stanley Stewart	Indicted: 6/19/02; money laundering conspiracy	Pleaded guilty: 9/18/02; money laundering conspiracy	Sentenced: 12/11/02; 12 months, 1 day in prison; two years supervised release	
Robert Doyle	Indicted: 6/19/02; mail fraud	Pleaded guilty: 9/17/02; mail fraud	Sentenced: 8/28/03; 3 months in prison; 2 years supervised release; \$4,000 fine	

United States v. Stanley, 02 CR 846**(Judge Grady)**

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Roger Stanley	Indicted: 8/28/02; obstruction of justice	see guilty plea in 02 CR 609 above; included as relevant conduct	See sentencing in 02 CR 609	

United States v. Zlatkovic, 02 CR 746

(Judge Grady)

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Dejan Zlatkovic	Complaint: 7/31/02; bribery; Indicted: 10/16/02	Pleaded not guilty: 10/22/02;	Status: 1/26/04	

United States v. Holloway, 02 CR 1028

(Judge Shadur)

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Timothy Holloway	Information filed: 10/23/02; filing false tax return	Pleaded guilty: 11/1/02; filing false tax return	Sentenced: 3/18/03; three years probation; \$4,000 fine; 400 hours community service	

United States v. Kwok, 03 CR 495

(Magistrate Judge Nolan)

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Hei Yeng Kwok	Complaint: 5/13/03; bribery Indicted: bribery (2 counts)	Trial: 8/20/03; found guilty 8/21/03 1 count bribery	Sentenced: 10/16/03; 21 months in prison; 3 years supervised release; \$40,000 fine	

United States v. Prokos, 03 CR 542

(Judge Holderman)

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Alexandra Coutretsis aka Alexandra Prokos aka Andrea Prokos	Indicted: 5/28/03; perjury (8 counts)	Pleaded guilty 12/3/03	Sentencing status: 5/21/04 @ 10:30	

United States v. Balkan, 03 CR 585

(Judge Leinenweber)

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Charles Balkan	Complaint: 6/27/03; extortion Information: 8/22/03; extortion	Arraignment: 8/28/03	Status: 1/21/04 @ 9:00	

United States v. Swanson, 03 CR

(Judge Gettleman)

Name	Charges	Disposition	Status	Notes
Arthur "Ron" Swanon	Indicted: 8/27/03; Perjury (7 counts)	Arraignment: Pleaded not guilty	Status: 12/18/03	

Totals: **66 Defendants** (More than 30 current or former Secretary of State employees)
59 Convicted (54 guilty pleas and 5 trials)
54 Sentenced
7 Defendants pending (Ryan, Warner, Zlatkovic, Balkan, Swanson, Yanez and Pizarro)
2 Fugitives (Yanez and Pizarro)

12/17/03